

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-12 EA-07 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 DHA-02
EB-07 OMB-01 COME-00 TRSE-00 FEAE-00 ACDA-07
AID-05 /130 W

-----161727Z 094167 /44

R 161504Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5123
INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY NASSAU
AMEMBASSY DACCA
AMEMBAXFFBRIDGETOWN
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
AMEMBASSY SUVA
AMEMBASSY BANJUL
AMEMBASSY ACCRA
AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY MASERU
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY LILONGWE
AMEMBASSY VALLETTA
AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY
AMEMBASSY VICTORIA
AMEMBASSY FREETOWN
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
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AMEMBASSY MBABANE
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

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CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E. O. 11652:NA

TAGS: PFOR, XX, XF

SUBJECT: SOUTHERN AFRICA AND THE COMMONWEALTH COMMUNIQUE

SUMMARY: THE SECTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH COMMUNIQUE DEVOTED TO SOUTHERN AFRICA IS IN MANY RESPECTS A REPETITION OF ESTABLISHED IDEAS. THERE ARE THREE SEGMENTS, HOWEVER, CONCERNING SOUTH AFRICA, THE ARMED STRUGGLE, AND THE RHODESIA NEGOTIATIONS WHICH ARE WORTH NOTING. END SUMMARY.

1. THE SECTION ON SOUTHERN AFRICA CONTAINED IN THE COMMONWEALTH CONFERENCE COMMUNIQUE PUBLISHED HERE JUNE 16 DID NOT GIVE OFF THE HEAT THAT HAD GONE INTO ITS NEGOTIATION. WHAT IT LACKED IN SPECIFICITY, IT MADE UP FOR IN VERBOSITY. IT INDICATED THAT ONLY A BROAD CONSENSUS ON A SUBJECT OF SUCH COMPLEXITY CAN EMERGE FROM AN ORGANIZATION OF SUCH DIVERSITY. ON SANCTIONS, FOR EXAMPLE, THE COMMONWEALTH COMMITTEE WAS DIRECTED TO STUDY FURTHER MEASURES AND GOVERNMENTS WERE URGED TO TIGHTEN POLICIES. ON NAMIBIA, THE GOVERNMENTS REAFFIRMED THEIR COMMITMENT TO RESOLUTION
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385. THERE WERE, NEVERTHELESS, THREE ELEMENTS IN THIS SECTION OF THE COMMUNIQUE WHICH ARE NOTEWORTHY AND WHICH AFFECT SOUTH AFRICA, THE ARMED STRUGGLE, AND THE RHODESIA NEGOTIATIONS.

2. THE COMMUNIQUE REPRESENTS ANOTHER STEP ALONG THE PATH TO IDENTIFYING THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA AS THE ROOT CAUSE OF MINORITY RULE IN RHODESIA. IT IMPLIES THAT TO GET AT SMITH ONE MUST FIRST GET AT VORSTER. THE COMMUNIQUE CALLED ON "ALL COUNTRIES TO TAKE EFFECTIVE STEPS TO ENSURE THAT SOUTH AFRICA NO LONGER SUSTAINS THE ILLEGAL REGIME. RHODESIA'S RECEIPT OF OIL AND MILITARY EQUIPMENT FROM SOUTH AFRICA WAS SINGLED OUT FOR PARTICULAR CONDEMNATION. COMING CLOSE TO A CHAPTER 7 FORMULATION, THE COMMUNIQUE ALSO STATES THAT "SOUTH AFRICA PLAYS A CENTRAL ROLE IN PERPETUATING THE PROBLEMS OF SOUTHERN AFRICA WHICH ARE ALL INTERRELATED . . . THE POLICIES AND ACTIONS OF THE

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FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

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INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

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SOUTH AFRICAN REGIME, BOTH AT HOME AND ABROAD, CONSTITUTE A GRAVE THREAT TO THE SECURITY AND STABILITY OF THE INTERNATIONAL PEACE IN THE WHOLE AREA."

3. THE ARMED STRUGGLE IS RECOGNIZED AS A TRACK RUNNING SIDE BY SIDE WITH NEGOTIATIONS AS A WAY TO ACHIEVE A RHODESIA SOLUTION. BUT THE COMMUNIQUE IMPLIES THAT THE ARMED STRUGGLE IS A MORE PROMISING ROUTE THAN NEGOTIATIONS. IT NOTES THAT "THE ARMED STRUGGLE HAS BECOME COMPLEMENTARY TO OTHER EFFORTS INCLUDING A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT." AND THE CONTINUATION OF FIGHTING IS INEVITABLE. "HEADS OF GOVERNMENT RECOGNIZE THAT A GENUINE SETTLEMENT MUST INVOLVE AGREEMENT NOT ONLY ON APPROPRIATE CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES BUT ALSO ON PRACTICAL MEASURES TO ENSURE THE TRANSFER OF EFFECTIVE POWER TO A MAJORITY GOVERNMENT. IN THIS CONNECTION THEY EXPRESSED THEIR DEEP CONVICTION THAT A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT MUST ENTAIL NOT ONLY THE REMOVAL OF THE ILLEGAL SMITH REGIME BUT ALSO THE DISMANTLING OF ITS APPARATUS OF REPRESSION IN ORDER TO PAVE THE WAY FOR THE CREATION OF POLICE AND ARMED FORCES WHICH WOULD BE RESPONSIVE TO THE NEEDS OF THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PEOPLE OF ZIMBABWE AND ENSURE AN ORDERLY AND EFFECTIVE TRANSFER OF POWER."

BREWSTER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COMMUNIQUES, POLITICAL SITUATION
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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Expiration:
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2131339
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOUTHERN AFRICA AND THE COMMONWEALTH COMMUNIQUE SUMMARY: THE SECTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH COMMUNIQUE DEVOTED TO SOUTHERN AFRICA IS IN MANY RESPECTS A
TAGS: PFOR, XX, XF
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/3503077c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
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